

**Elvis & The Shoemaker**  
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**Cues for the media person are highlighted.**

**Cast:**

Willie Shoemaker  
Kelly Green  
Rymin' Sally Simon  
Wrong Word Wilma  
Repeating Pete

**Props:**

Elvis CD – preferably one which includes Blue Suede Shoes.  
Table and Chair  
Blanket and pad for bed  
Cane  
Stuffed Cat  
Two identical bags – one is filled with “leather” scraps, while the other has a shoebox in it.  
Rymin' Sally Simon & Wrong Word Wilma's Money  
Suit bag  
Envelope and letter from Shoemaker's Sweepstakes.

**Scene 1 – Introduce Willie Shoemaker**

*All of this play takes place in the main room in Willie Shoemaker's shoe shop. Willie is a shoemaker, who is so poor that he lives in his shoe shop.*

*Have one table and chair on stage. On the table is an asleep cat (stuffed animal) named Autumn.*

*One side of the stage will be Willie's bed.*

*Willie walks on stage. He is old and walks with a cane. In his free hand, he is carrying a bag. He sits down at his table and opens his bag. All he has in the bag are a few scraps of "leather". He holds up the leather, looks at it and frowns. He puts the leather back in the bag.*

*He looks over at Autumn and smiles. He reaches over and pets her.*

Willie: "Are you asleep already, Autumn? It's only Nine O'clock."

Willie: "You must have caught that mouse I saw you chasing earlier. At least one of us is going to bed with a full stomach. Unfortunately, food costs money and I haven't been selling many shoes recently."

Willie: "Making shoes isn't a job for someone with poor eyesight and shaky hands. But what else is a man named Willie Shoemaker supposed to do, ride a horse?"

*Willie picks up the leather he purchased and looks at it again.*

Willie: "It's not much, but hopefully I'll be able to make a pair of shoes with it."

*Willie puts the cloth back in the bag, stretches his arms and yawns.*

Willie: "I'd best go to bed, if I'm going to be in any shape to cut out this leather in the morning."

*Willie gets up. He has the cane in one hand and the bag of leather scraps in the other.*

Willie: "I'd better not leave this here or Autumn might get into it and then I'd have nothing to make shoes with."

*Willie carries the bag of cloth to the work room door (our stage has a doorway which leads into a hallway. We're using that door as the door to the work room). He opens the door, places the bag inside the work room and closes the door.*

Willie: "Now that the leather is safe in my work room, there is no chance of Autumn getting into it."

*Willie walks over to his bed. Willie kneels down beside his bed and places the cane where he'll be able to reach it from the bed.*

Willie: "God, before I go to bed I wanted to thank You for Your many blessings. Thanks for letting Autumn catch that mouse he's been chasing. He gets kinda cranky when he's hungry. Thanks for Autumn, I love that little furball and I'd be so lonely without him. Thanks for this shoe shop. I was really disappointed when I had to sell my home and start living in the store, but now it's home to me. While it's not much, You've always made sure I had a roof over my head and I am so thankful for that. I'm getting old, my hands shake and my eyesight isn't what it used to be. But, I'm pretty healthy and again I thank You for that. Help me to never take Your many blessing for granted. Amen."

*Willie crawls into bed and is fast asleep.*

**Play a short clip of Elvis music while Willie sleeps.**

## **Scene 2 – Blue Suede Shoes**

*Willie gets up from sleeping. He stands up and stretches.*

Willie: "Since there's nothing for breakfast this morning, I might as well get started on those shoes."

*Willie picks up his cane and walks over to the work room door. He opens the door, takes out the bag and closes the door.*

*Willie looks at the bag and pulls out the shoebox. He looks in the shoebox (only Willie should see the contents).*

Willie: “Hunh? These aren’t scraps of leather, these are Blue Suede Shoes.”

Willie (*playfully to the cat*): “Autumn, did you sew this while I was sleeping?”

Willie (*more seriously*): “God, I have no idea who swapped my scraps of leather for these beautiful Blue Suede Shoes. Thank you for this wonderful blessing. I haven’t made shoes this fine in twenty years.”

*Rymin’ Sally Simon walks on stage. Remember, Rymin’ Sally Simon needs to have the play money before she comes on stage.*

Rymin’ Sally Simon “Good morning, I’m hopin’, your shop is open.

Rymin’ Sally Simon: “You see, I need shoes that are new, in the color ocean blue.”

Willie: “How about these?”

*Willie walks over and shows Rymin’ Sally Simon the contents of the shoebox.*

Rymin’ Sally Simon: “Wow, these shoes are great. With them, my outfit will be first rate.”

Rymin’ Sally Simon: “I’ll give you fifty dollars for these, if you’ll sell them to me, please.”

Willie: “Fifty dollars!! They’re yours”

Rymin' Sally Simon (*while giving Willie the money*): "I'll tell my friends for sure, the best store for shoes is yours."

*Rymin' Sally Simon leaves the stage.*

Willie: "Autumn, did you see that? Those Blue Suede Shoes sold for 50 dollars."

Willie (*playfully*): "I'm going out to buy more leather and some food, so you'll need to watch over the shop while I'm gone."

*Willie walks off stage.*

### **Scene 3 – Wrong Word Wilma**

*Willie walks on stage; he is in a great mood. Willie is carrying a bag with him.*

Willie: "That was the best meal I've had in ages."

Willie: "And I had enough money left to purchase more leather."

*Willie carries the bag to the work room door. He opens the door, places the bag inside the work room and closes the door.*

*Willie walks over to his bed. Willie kneels down beside his bed and places the cane where he'll be able to reach it from the bed.*

Willie: "God, before I go to bed I wanted to thank You for Your many blessings. Thank You so much for the Blue Suede Shoes. With the money I made selling them, I was able to purchase more leather and even a little food for Autumn and me. I cannot thank You enough for food and leather. Help me to never take Your many blessing for granted. Amen."

*Willie crawls into bed and is fast asleep.*

**Play a short clip of Elvis music while Willie sleeps.**

*Willie gets up from sleeping. He stands up and stretches.*

Willie (*thinking aloud*): “I heard some strange sounds last night...”

Willie: “...just like the night before last.”

*Willie grabs his cane and excitedly rushes to the work room door.*

*Willie open the door, reaches in and gets the bag with the shoeboxes and closes the door.*

*Excitedly, Willie checks the bag. Willie looks at the bag and pulls out the shoebox.*

Willie: “I didn’t purchase any shoeboxes last night!”

*Willie looks in the shoebox (only Willie should see the contents).*

Willie (*smiling*): “More beautiful Blue Suede Shoes!”

Willie (*puzzled*): “But this time, there are two ... pairs.”

*Wrong Word Wilma walks on stage. Remember, Wrong Word Wilma needs to have the play money before she comes on stage*

Wrong Word Wilma: “Good morning, I hear you sell great blue suede horse shoes.”

Willie: “I think you’re in the wrong shop. I make shoes for people, not horses.”

Wrong Word Wilma: “Oops, I meant to say I want to purchase two pairs of blue snow shoes.”

Willie: “I don’t make snow shoes, but I think I have exactly what you are looking for.”

*Willie shows Wrong Word Wilma the contents of the shoebox. Only Willie and Wrong Word Wilma should see the contents.*

Wrong Word Wilma: “Wow, I’ll take them. How much honey do you want?”

Willie: “I’m not a bear. They’re 100 Dollars”

Wrong Word Wilma: “Here you go”

*Wrong Word Wilma hands the Willie the money, takes the bag with the shoeboxes and walks off stage*

Willie: “Autumn, did you see that? Those Blue Suede Shoes sold for 100 dollars.”

Willie (*playfully*): “I’m going out again. So I’ll need you to watch over the shop while I’m gone.”

*Willie walks off stage.*

#### **Scene 4 – A Mystery is Solved**

*Willie walks on stage; he is in a great mood. He walks up to the table and chair and sits down. Willie begins petting Autumn.*

Willie: “Do you have any idea who is leaving those Blue Suede Shoes? I want to thank them.”

Willie: “I have an idea. What if I only pretend to be asleep tonight?”

Willie: “Autumn, I think I need to go to bed early tonight.”

*Willie walks over to his bed. Willie kneels down beside his bed and places the cane where he'll be able to reach it from the bed.*

Willie: “God, before I go to bed I wanted to thank You for Your many blessings. Thank You so much for the two pairs of Blue Suede Shoes. I made enough money selling them that I was able to put a few dollars in the bank. I also have one request tonight. I'd like to thank the person who keeps leaving these shoes each night. Help me to never take Your many blessing for granted. Amen.”

*Willie lies down and pretends to be asleep.*

**Play a short clip of Elvis music while Willie sleeps.**

*When the music starts playing, Willie gets his cane and quietly walks over to the work room door. He opens the door just the least bit. Willie looks in and is startled by what he sees. Willie closes the door again and goes back to bed. Willie is fast asleep.*

*Willie gets up the next morning. He gets his cane and walks over to Autumn.*

Willie: “Autumn, you won't believe what I saw last night. When I heard that music last night, I peeked into the work room. The person making the Blue Suede Shoes looked just like Elvis.”

Willie: “Elvis' clothes were old and in bad shape. So, I'd thought I'd show him how thankfully I was by buying him some new clothes.”

*Willie walks off stage.*

## Scene 5 – Clothes Fit for a King

*Willie walks on stage carrying a suit bag.*

Willie: “These clothes weren’t cheap, but they’re so beautiful they’re worth it.”

Willie: “I’ll put them in the work room, where Elvis is sure to find them.”

*Willie walks over to the work room door. He opens the door, places the suit bag inside the work room and closes the door.*

*Willie stretches and yawns.*

Willie: “I’m so tired I can barely keep my eyes open. After only pretending to sleep last night, I’ll have no problems sleeping tonight.”

*Willie walks over to his bed, places his cane within reach and kneels down.*

Willie: “God, before I go to bed I wanted to thank You for Your many blessings. A few days ago, I was wondering where I’d get money for food. Now, I’m going to bed full every night. Thank You for watching over me and providing for me. Help me to never take Your many blessing for granted. Amen.”

*Willie crawls into bed and goes to sleep.*

**Play short clip of Elvis music while Willie sleeps.**

*Willie wakes up. He grabs his cane and walks over to the work room door. Willie opens the door and looks inside. He picks up an envelope and closes the door.*

Willie: “I’m guessing this is a Thank You note for the suit.”

*Willie opens the envelope and pulls out a letter which he begins to read aloud.*

Willie: “Congratulations! You have won the Grand Prize in the Shoemaker Sweepstakes: a 5 day all expense paid trip to beautiful Hawaii.”

*Willie begins jumping up and down cheering.*

Willie: “Wait a second, who is going to watch over the shoe shop while I’m in Hawaii?”

Willie: “I know; I’ll call my sister, Kelly Green.”

*Willie walks off stage to call Kelly.*

## **Scene 6 - Meet Kelly Green**

*Willie walks on stage. He is extremely impatient, so he begins pacing the floor.*

Willie: “Where is she? My flight leaves in an hour and Kelly’s still not here.”

*Kelly walks in.*

Kelly: “Hi, Willie. Sorry I’m late but Jo-Ann’s was having a green sale and you know I just looove green.”

Willie: “Listen, I’ve **GOT** to run or I’m going to miss my flight. I’ll pick you up something green in Hawaii.”

*Willie rushes off stage.*

Kelly: “Well, if I’m going to be here for a week, I’d better see what shoes I’m selling.”

*Kelly walks to the work room door. She opens the door, takes out a shoebox and closes the door.*

*Kelly opens the box (only Kelly should see the contents) and makes a look of disgust.*

Kelly: “These shoes are terrible.”

Kelly: “Willie knows I can’t stand anything blue; Green is the color for me.”

Kelly: “And they look like...”

*Kelly reaches into the shoebox and touches the shoes. Kelly should look even more disgusted.*

Kelly: “SUEDE! Suede gives me hives!”

Kelly: “There is no way I’m selling these shoes. Thankfully, the material I picked up at Jo-Ann’s green sale should be perfect for shoes.”

Kelly: “But first, I need to get rid of whoever is leaving Willie these awful shoes.”

Kelly (super fake and exaggerated): “Autumn, I’m going to be now. I’ll see you in the morning.”

Kelly walks over to the bed and lies down. Kelly begins extremely fake snoring.

**Play a short clip of Elvis music while Kelly “sleeps.”**

*As soon as the music begins, Kelly jumps out of bed and rushes to the work room door.*

**As soon as Kelly gets out of bed, stop the music.**

*Kelly open the door to the work room.*

Kelly (*yelling*): **“Get out of here and take your ugly shoes with you!”**

Kelly: “Great, he’s gone. Now, I’ll go in the back room and make a pair of beautiful green shoes. I’ll show my brother what his customers really want.”

*Kelly leaves the stage via the Work Room Door.*

## **Scene 7 – Repeating Pete**

*Kelly comes back on stage carrying a shoe box.*

Kelly (*sounding tired*): “Boy, making shoes is harder than I remembered.”

Kelly: “But, it’ll be worth it when Willie sees my Kelly Green Shoes and customers lined up to purchase them.”

*Repeating Pete walks on stage.*

Kelly: “Speaking of customers. It looks like I have my first one.”

Repeating Pete: “Hi, I’m Repeating Pete; Repeating Pete, that’s me.”

Repeating Pete: “I’m here to buy a pair of blue shoes; I’d like to purchase a pair of shoes.”

Kelly: “Oh, you don’t want those crummy old Blue Suede Shoes. I have something much better, Kelly Green Shoes.”

*Kelly shows Repeating Pete the contents of the shoebox. As always, only Kelly and Repeating Pete should be able to see the contents.*

Repeating Pete: “Those shoes look horrible; those shoes are terrible.”

Kelly: “Watch what you’re saying Petey, I made these shoes myself.”

Repeating Pete: “But, they’re poorly made; I call that shoddy workmanship”.

Repeating Pete: “These shoes are ugly; I’ve never seen such an eye sore.”

Kelly: “You need your eyes checked. These shoes are a beautiful shade of Kelly Green.”

Repeating Pete: “I will not purchase these shoes; I will not buy these shoes.”

Repeating Pete: “Farewell; Goodbye.”

*Repeating Pete walks off stage.*

Kelly: “Good riddance. I wouldn’t have sold my Kelly Green shoes to him anyways. My shoes are way too good for him.”

Kelly: “Maybe if I hung a sign announcing that we now have Kelly Green shoes, I’ll attract better customers.”

*Kelly walks of stage.*

**Scene 8 – Willie Returns**

*Kelly walks on stage.*

Kelly: "I can't believe it. It's been a week and every single customer has wanted those awful Blue Suede Shoes. No one would buy my beautiful Kelly Green Shoes."

*Willie walks on stage. He is smiling and singing an Elvis tune.*

Willie: "Hey, Sis! I'm back. Hawaii was awesome. Everything was so green; you would have loved it."

Willie: "How'd things go while I was gone?"

Kelly: "Terribly! You have the most ungrateful customer's I've ever met. They wouldn't know a good pair of shoes if it hit them, which is exactly what I was tempted to do with a couple of the really rude ones."

Willie: "What? Everyone loved Elvis' Blue Suede Shoes."

Kelly: "Elvis?"

Willie: "Yeah, Elvis. Who do you think made the Blue Suede Shoes, elves?"

Kelly: "Oh, no! No wonder he looked so familiar."

Willie: "So, you saw Elvis too?"

Kelly: "Yeah, I saw Elvis..."

Kelly (meekly): "...on the night I threw him out."

Willie: "What! You threw Elvis out?"

Kelly: “I didn’t know it was Elvis at the time. It was the middle of the night and kinda hard to see. All I knew was somebody was sneaking in each night and leaving uggggly Blue Suede Shoes.”

Kelly: “I don’t know which was worse – the blue or the suede. You know I can’t stand the color blue and suede gives me a rash.”

Willie: “So what did you sell?”

Kelly: “Nothing! After I gave Elvis the boot, I threw away his horrible Blue Suede Shoes. Then I handcrafted a beautiful pair of Kelly Green Shoes, but no one would buy them.”

Kelly: “Like I said, your customers wouldn’t know a good pair of shoes if it hit them”

Kelly: “Since you’re back, I’m leaving. I don’t want to spend another minute in this tasteless town.”

*The Kelly storms off stage.*

Willie: “Autumn, do you know what I am really thankful for now? I am really thankful that she’s gone.”

**---THE END---**

## **Discussion With The Audience**

God tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” We need to have an attitude of being thankful no matter what’s happening around us. In this story, which character was thankful? **Willie.**

When the play started Willie was hungry. Did he complain to God? **No.**

Did he thank God? **Yes.**

What were some of the things which Willie was thankful for? **Willie was thankful that Autumn, cat caught the mouse. Even though Willie was hungry, he was thankful to have Autumn and a roof over his head. He could have easily complained about not having food, but instead he looked for things for which to be thankful. Though Willie had poor eyesight and shaky hands, he was thankful that he was still healthy.**

Were things going the way Willie wanted them to during this time? **No.**

Even though he was having a very hard time feeding himself and making shoes, he found things for which to be thankful.

When things started going well for Willie, how did he show that he wasn't taking God's blessing for granted? **Willie thanked God each night before going to bed. Willie specifically prayed "Help me to never take Your many blessing for granted."**

Was Kelly thankful? **No.**

Kelly is not thankful that she is able to help her brother. She wasn't thankful that someone was making shoes for her. The shoes were not the color that she wanted, so instead of being thankful for the help, she ungratefully got rid of the person making the shoes.

What should Kelly have done?

**She should have been thankful to be able to help her brother. She should have been thankful that someone was making shoes for her, even though they were not the color she liked.**

Which person do you want to be like? Kelly or Willie?

Remember: We need to be thankful all the time because God tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18 “In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”